North Carolina Education Lottery Scholarship Annual Report June 2008

The NC Education Lottery commenced in March 2006 and the North Carolina State Education Assistance Authority (Authority) began administering the scholarship component in February 2007 for the 2007-08 academic year. The Authority made the first scholarship disbursements in August 2007. As reporting for the 2007-08 academic year is not available until the fiscal year has ended, the next annual report will contain data regarding the number of students funded and funds disbursed to institutions for the benefit of eligible students in the 2007-08 academic year.

The Education Lottery Scholarship is designed to ensure that eligible students whose families can contribute less than \$5,000 toward the student's education will receive a minimum amount of grant funding when combined with the Federal Pell Grant. For the 2007-08 year, the minimum amount was \$2,500.

Students apply for the Education Lottery Scholarship by completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and listing a participating institution on the FAFSA. No additional applications are needed for students to be considered. Students are notified of their eligibility by the institutions to which they have applied and listed on the FAFSA. Funds are disbursed to eligible institutions upon confirmation from that institution that the eligible student is enrolled or intends to enroll for the semester.

By statute, the eligible institutions in North Carolina include:

- University of North Carolina Constituent Institutions as defined in G.S. 116-2(4)
- North Carolina Community Colleges as defined in G.S. 115D-2(2)
- Private non-profit institutions as defined in G.S. 116-22(1)
- Certain other private non-profit institutions as defined in 116-43.5(a)(1)
- Hospital schools as defined in G.S. 131E-16(14) or school of nursing affiliated with a nonprofit postsecondary institution as defined in G.S. 116-22(1).

The Education Lottery Fund disburses funds to the State Education Assistance Authority quarterly and funds are deposited into the Education Lottery Trust Fund for the benefit of eligible students.